Statement

Details of assistance proposed to be provided during current five year plan and assistance provided during last three years under Central Road Fund (CRF)

Rs. Crore

Sl. No.	Year	Accrual/Amount proposed to be provided*	Release/Assistance provided
1.	2002-03	980.00	950.28
2.	2003-04	910.76	778.94
3.	2004-05	868.00	607.4
4.	2005-06	1535.36	1299.27
5.	2006-07	1566.00	670.03 (As on September 2006)

*CRF Fund is Non-lapsable

National waterways

†207. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether is is a fact that Government have declared waterways in West Bengal and Orissa *i.e.* from Paradeep to Geonkhali and from Kakinada to Pondicherry in Andhra Pradesh as natioanl waterways under river-canal scheme;

(b) if so, whether necessary steps have already been taken for providing necessary basic facilities for the same; and

(c) the other waterways of the country which are under consideration of the Government with regard to declaring them as national waterways after developing them?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Government proposes through appropriate

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

legislation to declare the following waterways in West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry as National Waterways:-

(i) Talcher-Dhamara stretch of rivers, Geonkhali-Charbatia stretch of East Coast Canal, Charbatia-Dhamra stretch of Matai river and Mahanadi Delta rivers.

(ii) Kakinada-Pondicherry stretch of canals and the Kaluvelly tank, Bhadrachalam-Rajahmundry stretch of river Godavari and Wazirabad-Vijayawada stretch of river Krishna.

(b) Necessary infrastructural facilities on these waterways will be provided by Inland Waterways Authority of India after these waterways are declared as National Waterways.

(c) Apart from the above mentioned two waterways, Lakhipur-Bhanga stretch of Barak river in Assam is also under consideration of the Government for declaration as a National Waterway.

Condition of highways in Maharashtra

†208. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the highways in Maharashtra are in a deplorable condition and they have become rough and rugged due to excessive rainfall this year;

(b) if so, the action taken for repairing these highways; and

(c) the arrangement made for immediate repair of these highways on detection of their deplorable condition quickly in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir. However, damages on some of the stretches of National Highways have ocurred due to excessive rainfall during this year.

(b) and (c) Immediate restoration works have already been taken up and the National Highways are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.